

JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES WRITES OPEN LETTER TO ROOSEVELT UPON THE NEGRO QUESTION

Under the countering Providence of God, and by the agency of an assassin's bullet, William McKinley was removed from the office of President of the United States. We of the South had come to love that great and good man as we had never loved and trusted a public officer since the attempted division of the government. His loving kindness had shivered the spirit of faction. His wisdom and conservatism had won the implicit trust and confidence of all factions and of all sections, and when he died he was mourned as tenderly in the South as in the North, which he lived in. He was mourned in the city of Canton, in which you have just pronounced a eulogy above his sacred dust.

Succeeding, by virtue of your position in the second station, in the solemn and serious responsibility of the chief office of the United States, you won the instant confidence and regard of the people by your tender and respectful attitude toward the conditions which had elevated you to the position of President. Your apprehensions of the hour by a frank, manly and twice repeated public assurance of your intentions to preserve and perpetuate the policies of the martyred statesman whose mantle and mission had fallen upon you.

Mr. President, it is the object of this letter to say to you that you have either forgotten or forfeited the promise which you made to the American people above the open grave of William McKinley.

The two distinct legacies which President McKinley left to this people were: First, a reunited country, and Second, a satisfactory, even if temporary, solution of the vexed and ever-threatening problem of the races.

Of the first legacy it is scarcely necessary to speak. Pittsburgh Lee in Cuba, old Joe Wheeler at San Juan, where you had your own strongest impulses to civil success, the plea of the patriot President at Mason for the graves of the Confederate dead, were all expressions of a wise and beneficent policy which healed the wounds of section, and at the close of the Spanish-American war left this great country more harmonious and united than it had been since the earlier wrangles over the Constitution and the form of government.

Perhaps in mistaken honesty, but certainly in lamentable error, you have reopened a sectional and racial division which has undone the glorious work of your predecessor, and set the sections once more suspicious and apart.

But Mr. McKinley's second legacy to the American people was the temporary allay, if not the permanent solution, of the race question. Steadily and sure-

GERMAN VESSEL

TAKING SOUNDINGS

(By Associated Press.)
CARACAS, January 31.—News has reached here that a German vessel supposed to be the *Crux*, which was seen this morning near the bar at Maracaibo. She was taking advantage of the fine weather, and was actively engaged in making soundings. She had landed men in her small boats.

GERMANS OFFER

TO BUY WAR VESSELS

(By Associated Press.)
SANTIAO, CHILE, January 31.—Private agents of Germany have proposed to the government the immediate purchase of the Chilean battleship *Capitan Prat* and the armored cruiser *Esmeralda* and have offered to take over the warships now being built in Europe for Chile.

WANT MEN ABOARD

FIGHTING VESSELS

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, January 31.—Orders have been issued by the Navy Department for the converted cruiser *Pratt*, to be used as a training ship, which is undergoing repairs at the Norfolk navy yard, to take on a large detachment of landsmen at that port with a view to their immediate transfer to the training ship *Harford*, for a course of instruction in seamanship in naval tactics. The transfer will be made at a convenient port in the West Indies, not yet determined. The *Pratt* will return to Norfolk with men from the *Harford*, who have completed the course of instruction with a view to their distribution among warships in commission.

RUSH ORDERS FOR

KRAG-JORGENSEN RIFLES

(By Associated Press.)
SPRINGFIELD, MASS., January 31.—Orders have been received at the United States arsenal to rush the shipment of one hundred thousand Krag rifles to arsenals over the country. The original purpose of the order was the passage of the militia bill, but the rush feature of the order apparently has a special cause.

PREACHING THE GOSPEL

Rev. Dr. R. P. Kerr Not Replying to Rev. Dr. J. E. Hawthorne.
Rev. Dr. R. P. Kerr, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, who has recently returned from the North, said last night: "Since my return my attention has been called to a report in Tuesday's Times-Dispatch of my sermon Sunday night. The report is substantially correct, but the headlines, 'Dr. Kerr Replies to Dr. Hawthorne,' are incorrect."
"I was not replying to any one, but doing as I always do in the pulpit—preaching the gospel and nothing else."

Soon to be Married.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
WYTHEVILLE, VA., January 31.—An announcement of interest is that the approaching marriage of Miss Julia Pendleton to A. P. Potts, of Pine Bluff, Ark. The bride is a sister of Mr. Edmund Pendleton, of Wytheville, and a niece of General Pendleton, of General R. E. Lee's artillery. The marriage will take place early next week, and Mr. and Mrs. Potts will come to Wytheville to visit the bride's mother, Mrs. Jane Pendleton. A reception will be tendered them next Friday, February 6th, at the home of Mr. Edmund Pendleton. The bride has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Robinson, at Pine Bluff, where the ceremony will take place.

Young Man Heavily Punished.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
BRISTOL, TENN., January 31.—Arch Sheppard, a young man, was fined \$100 and sentenced to the penitentiary for 10 months by Mayor Roe, of Bristol, Va., to-day, who found Sheppard guilty of writing improper letters to young ladies in the city. Sheppard's counsel appealed the case.

Wheeler-Dickinson.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
FREDERICKSBURG, VA., January 31.—Miss Sarah Dickinson and Mr. Richard Wheeler were married yesterday at the home of the bride, in upper Spotsylvania county, in the presence of a large gathering of friends. Rev. Joseph P. Billingsley performed the ceremony.

A BIBLICAL RELIC CENTURIES OLD

Five Books of Moses, Written on Parchment, Discovered in the Country of Egypt.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
CAIRO, Jan. 31.—The Times-Dispatch correspondent has been privileged to inspect the extraordinary Biblical relic discovered here a few days ago.
It is a manuscript of the five books of Moses and is written on parchment. It contains 226 folios, all in excellent state of preservation, except the first page. The folios are thirty-eight centimeters long and contain twenty-four lines to the page. The page containing the date, the *Exodus*, which is equivalent to 755 A. D., is well preserved.
This manuscript is the oldest of any Hebrew manuscript Bible yet discovered. The Chicago Museum is already negotiating for it. Immediately after the *Exodus* Commandment there is a page of fifteen or twenty lines not found in the current version.

PLANS FOR NEW HOTEL

Architects working on Designs of Petersburg Hostelry
A. C. L. FREIGHT DEPOT
Work on it to Begin Shortly After the Middle of This Month—Diminutive Pickaninny Works in Tobacco Factory and is Good Hand.

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HE HAD THE PASSWORD
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It beats for all, and we intend making it beat any past February in the amount of our business.

To do this—we shall offer you not old-fashioned "Inducements," but up-to-date "investments."

Some people were "lucky" and bought their winter's coal last Spring.

Some people will be equally lucky, and buy their Next Winter's Clothing this week—watch our daily advts.

You know the one thought we have now.

Clearance!

O.H. Berry & Co.
MEN'S & BOYS' OUTFITTERS

A GAY WEEK IN RALEIGH SOCIETY

Mrs. Aycock's Reception to the Ladies of Raleigh a Notable Affair.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

RALEIGH, N. C., January 31.—An exceptionally gay week in Raleigh social circles was fittingly closed this afternoon with a most elegant "at home" by Mrs. Charles B. Aycock at the Governor's Mansion, complimentary to the ladies of Raleigh, the occasion being a sort of sequel to the elaborate reception by Governor and Mrs. Aycock to the members of the General Assembly on Friday night. The custom had been heretofore to receive the people of Raleigh at the regular legislative reception. However, the great crush of people had become an optional feature to these biennial State functions, and Mrs. Aycock resolved to entertain the ladies of the city separately, and a happy solution of the dilemma has been found. For both the reception the Mansion was most beautifully